

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is requested.

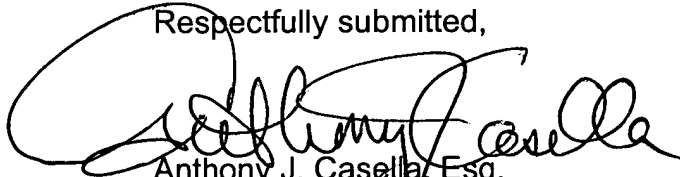
Amended claim 1 and original claims 2-4 and 6-10 remain in the application.

In the Official Action the Examiner indicated that claim 5 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but will be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has amended claim 1 to incorporate all the limitations of dependent claim 5, and as amended, it is respectfully submitted that amended claim 1 is in condition for allowance. Claims 2-4 and 6, 7 dependent from amended claim 1 and, it is respectfully submitted, are also in condition for allowance.

Original claims 8-10 were allowed over the prior art of record.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims remaining in the application, to wit, claims 1-4, and 6-10 define patentable subject matter and allowance thereof is respectfully solicited. If the Examiner has any questions relative to the above, he is respectfully requested to telephone contact applicant's attorney at the number below.

Respectfully submitted,



Anthony J. Casella, Esq.

Atty. Reg. No. 24,095

Customer No. 901218

CASELLA & HESPOS LLP

274 Madison Avenue - Suite 1703

New York, NY 10016

Tel. (212) 725-2450

Fax (212) 725-2452

Date: May 4, 2004